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E.O. 12958:N/A

TAGS: ECON ETRD WTO TH

SUBJECT: WTO LABELING DEMARCHE - THAILAND RESPONSE

REF: STATE 20817

11. Econoff spoke with Ms. Sirinart Chaimun, Director of the Bureau of Multilateral Trade Negotiations and delivered talking points per reftel. Sirinart said her staff had discussed the U.S. proposal with private industry who agreed the proposal looked acceptable, but could not immediately commit to co-sponsorship. Sirinart said neither she nor industry had specific concerns, but believed more time was necessary to examine the proposal and had called a meeting next week to consult with related agencies, including the Ministry of Industry which covers labeling requirements. Although she could not commit to co-sponsorship of the U.S. proposal before meetings in Geneva began, she speculated that Thailand may be able to throw support to the proposal later next week.